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3:01-CV-00208 GRIZZELL V. HOMESIDE LENDING  
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CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY:  DEPUTY

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

LADELL GRIZZELL,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HOMESIDE LENDING,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 01-CV-208-K (POR)

ORDER (1) GRANTING  
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO  
PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*;  
(2) DISMISSING PLAINTIFF'S  
COMPLAINT WITHOUT  
PREJUDICE; AND (3) DENYING AS  
MOOT PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

Plaintiff Ladell Grizzel filed a complaint against Defendant Homeside Lending on February 2, 2001, alleging that Defendant evicted her in violation of a court order. (See Compl. at 1). Plaintiff also filed a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* ("IFP") under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1), as well as a request for appointment of counsel 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-5(f)(1)(A).

**I. Discussion**

**A. IFP Status under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)**

A court may authorize the commencement of a suit without prepayment of fees if the Plaintiff submits an affidavit, including a statement of all his or her assets, showing that he or she is unable to pay the fees. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). However, an IFP action is subject to dismissal if the court determines that the complaint is frivolous or malicious, fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted, or seeks monetary damages against a defendant who is immune from liability for such damages. See id. at § 1915(e)(2). In this Circuit, when a Plaintiff seeks leave to proceed IFP, the

1 district court first “grants or denies IFP status based on Plaintiff’s financial resources alone and then  
2 independently determines whether to dismiss the complaint on the grounds that it is frivolous.”  
3 Franklin v. Murphy, 745 F.2d 1221, 1226 n.5 (9th Cir. 1984).

4 Plaintiff has submitted an affidavit in support of her IFP application and information in support  
5 of her request for appointment of counsel. Plaintiff alleges that she does not own an automobile, does  
6 not have a checking account, does not own real estate, is self-employed but earning no income, and  
7 earned a total of \$300 dollars during her last employment which ended in October of 2000. See Mot.  
8 to proceed IFP at 2.

9 Accordingly, the court **GRANTS** Plaintiff’s request to proceed IFP.

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11 **B. Merits of Complaint Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)**

12 Title 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2) applies to proceedings filed IFP and requires sua sponte dismissal  
13 of civil actions if the complaint is frivolous, malicious, fails to state a claim upon which relief may be  
14 granted, or seeks monetary relief from a Defendant who is immune from such relief. In the present  
15 case, Plaintiff’s complaint is subject to dismissal for failure to state a cognizable claim or allege  
16 comprehensible facts. Plaintiff’s complaint is also subject to dismissal for being frivolous. See  
17 Jackson v. State of Arizona, 885 F.2d 639, 640 (9th Cir. 1989) (noting that a complaint is “frivolous  
18 within the meaning of section 1915 only if it lacks an arguable basis in law or fact.”).

19 Plaintiff’s complaint consists of one sentence: “Homeside Lending evicted me from [address]  
20 when there was a court order for them not to evict me.” See Compl. at 1. The complaint does not  
21 explain any of the underlying facts in this case; nor does the complaint make a request for relief.  
22 Additionally, the complaint nowhere addresses the reason why this court has jurisdiction over this  
23 matter.

24 Accordingly, Plaintiff’s complaint is hereby **DISMISSED** under section 1915(e)(2) because  
25 it fails to state a cognizable claim. This court has no basis for subject matter jurisdiction over this  
26 complaint.

1 **C. Appointment of Counsel**

2 Because the court is dismissing Plaintiff's complaint, the court **DENIES AS MOOT** Plaintiff's  
3 request for appointment of counsel.

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5 **II. Conclusion**

6 For the foregoing reasons, the court **GRANTS** Plaintiff's motion to proceed IFP. The court  
7 **DISMISSES** her complaint **WITHOUT PREJUDICE** for failing to state a cognizable claim. The  
8 court **DENIES AS MOOT** Plaintiff's request for appointment of counsel.

9 IF PLAINTIFF CHOOSES TO PROCEED WITH THIS ACTION, SHE MUST, WITHIN  
10 FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM THE DAY THIS ORDER IS STAMPED "FILED", FILE AN  
11 AMENDED COMPLAINT WHICH ADDRESSES THE DEFICIENCIES OF PLEADING SET  
12 FORTH IN THIS ORDER. The Amended Complaint must be complete in itself. See S. D. CAL. CIV.  
13 LR 15.1. Defendants not named and all claims not re-alleged in the Amended Complaint will be  
14 deemed to have been waived. See King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

15 Additionally, Plaintiff is hereby informed of the requirements of FED. R. CIV. P. 8. Under Rule  
16 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a complaint "shall contain (1) a short and plain statement  
17 of the grounds upon which the court's jurisdiction depends . . . , (2) a short and plain statement of the  
18 claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief, and (3) a demand for judgment for the relief the  
19 pleader seeks." FED. R. CIV. P. 8(a). Similarly, Rule 8(e) requires that "each averment of a pleading  
20 shall be simple, concise and direct." Rule 8 is designed to provide defendants with fair notice of the  
21 claims against them and the grounds on which those claims rest. McKeever v. Block, 932 F.2d 795,  
22 798 (9th Cir. 1991); 5 CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT & ARTHUR R. MILLER, FEDERAL PRACTICE AND  
23 PROCEDURE § 1202 (2d ed. 1990).

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5 In her Amended Complaint, Plaintiff should identify, in a short and plain manner, exactly who she  
6 contends is responsible for the violations of her rights, what injuries she suffered as a result, and what  
7 relief she seeks. Additionally, Plaintiff's complaint must establish that this court has subject matter  
8 jurisdiction over the matters alleged. Plaintiff is hereby WARNED that should her amended complaint  
9 fail to cure the deficiencies noted above, it will be **dismissed with prejudice**.

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12 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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8/09/01  
Date

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CC: ALL COUNSEL  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE LOUISA S. PORTER

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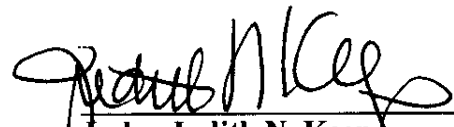
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Judge Judith N. Keep  
United States District Court  
Southern District of California